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Anthony Edw. J. Campbell PO Box 160370 Austin TX 78716-0370

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MAY 2 1 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of Lesch Jr. et al.

Application No. 10/603,235

Filed: June 24, 2003

Attorney Docket No. NWK1581

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a), filed November 6, 2006, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a) is **DISMISSED**.

Any request for reconsideration of this decision must be submitted within **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mail date of this decision. The reconsideration request should include a cover letter entitled "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a)." Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are permitted. No additional fee is required for filing a "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a)."

On June 28, 2005, the Office mailed a Corrected Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due and Notice of Allowability, (hereinafter "Notice of Allowance") which set a three-month statutory period for reply. The Notice of Allowance indicated that applicant must pay a \$700.00 issue fee by September 28, 2005, to avoid abandonment. In the absence of a timely filed reply, the application became abandoned on September 29, 2005. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on May 26, 2006.

A grantable petition to revive an abandoned application under 37 CFR 1.137(a) must be accompanied by:

- (1) The reply required to the outstanding Office action or notice, unless previously filed.
- (2) The petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(1);

¹ In the alternative, applicant may file a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) accompanied by the required petition fee.

- (3) A showing to the satisfaction of the Director that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(a) was unavoidable; and
- (4) Any terminal disclaimer (and fee set forth in § 1.20(d)) required pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section.

This petition lacks items (1) and (3) above.

The Director may revive an abandoned application if the delay in responding to the relevant outstanding Office requirement is shown to the satisfaction of the Director to be "unavoidable". Decisions on reviving abandoned applications on the basis of "unavoidable" delay have adopted the reasonably prudent person standard in determining if the delay was unavoidable:

The word 'unavoidable' . . . is applicable to ordinary human affairs, and requires no more or greater care or diligence than is generally used and observed by prudent and careful men in relation to their most important business. It permits them in the exercise of this care to rely upon the ordinary and trustworthy agencies of mail and telegraph, worthy and reliable employees, and such other means and instrumentalities as are usually employed in such important business. If unexpectedly, or through the unforeseen fault or imperfection of these agencies and instrumentalities, there occurs a failure, it may properly be said to be unavoidable, all other conditions of promptness in its rectification being present.²

The showing of record is inadequate to establish unavoidable delay within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 133 and 37 CFR 1.137(a).³ Specifically, an application is "unavoidably" abandoned only where petitioner, or counsel for petitioner, takes all action necessary for a proper response to the outstanding Office action, but through the intervention of unforeseen circumstances, such as failure of mail, telegraph, facsimile, or the negligence of otherwise reliable employees, the response is not timely received in the Office.⁴

As to requirement (1):

In an application lapsed for failure to pay the issue fee or any portion thereof, the required reply must include payment of the issue fee or any outstanding balance. Although applicant stated that the \$700.00 issue fee accompanied the present petition, the payment was not

² In re Mattullath, 38 App. D.C. 497, 514-15 (1912)(quoting Ex parte Pratt, 1887 Dec. Comm'r Pat. 31, 32-33 (1887)); see also Winkler v. Ladd, 221 F. Supp. 550, 552, 138 USPQ 666, 167-68 (D.D.C. 1963), aff'd, 143 USPQ 172 (D.C. Cir. 1963); Ex parte Henrich, 1913 Dec. Comm'r Pat. 139, 141 (1913). In addition, decisions on revival are made on a "case-by-case basis, taking all the facts and circumstances into account." Smith v. Mossinghoff, 671 F.2d 533, 538, 213 USPQ 977, 982 (D.C. Cir. 1982). Finally, a petition cannot be granted where a petitioner has failed to meet his or her burden of establishing that the delay was "unavoidable." Haines v. Quigg, 673 F. Supp. 314, 316-17, 5 USPQ2d 1130, 1131-32 (N.D. Ind. 1987).

³ See MPEP 711(c)(III)(C)(2) for a discussion of the requirements for a showing of unavoidable delay.

⁴ Ex parte Pratt, 1887 Dec. Comm'r Pat. 31 (Comm'r Pat. 1887).

received. Therefore, petitioner has failed to submit the required reply to the outstanding Notice of Allowance. A copy of the Notice accompanies this decision for petitioner's convenience. With any renewed petition to revive, applicant must submit the issue fee.

As to requirement (3):

Applicant asserted that the delay was unavoidable due to non-receipt of the Notice of Allowance mailed on June 28, 2005. Applicant stated that prior to the filing of the application, counsel relocated and updated the customer number to reflect the new address. The Office notes that the Notice of Allowance was returned to the Office with an indication on the envelope to "RETURN TO SENDER NOT DELIVERABLE AS ADDRESSES UNABLE TO FORWARD." The Office further notes that the declaration and transmittal letter submitted on filing included the Customer Number 30245, as well as the typed correspondence address of 6721 Northridge Drive, Dallas, Texas 75214-3156.

Applicant bears the burden of establishing that a timely change of correspondence address was submitted with the Office. A review of the USPTO records indicates that a change of the correspondence address was entered by the USPTO on June 14, 2006, after the mail date of the Notice of Allowance. Therefore, it appears that the Notice was mailed to the address of record, as it existed on June 28, 2005. Although applicant asserts that counsel's correspondence address was updated, applicant did not provide any documentary evidence to demonstrate that applicant changed the correspondence address associated with Customer No. 30245 to PO Box 160370, Austin TX 78716-0370. Examples of documentary evidence that would support such a showing are: (1) a "Request for Customer Number Data Change" (PTO /SB /124), requesting a change in the correspondence address associated with Customer No. 30245; (2) a "Change of Correspondence Address, Application" (PTO /SB /122), changing the correspondence address of this application to the address associated with Customer No. 30245; or (3) a request submitted electronically via a computer-readable diskette to change the correspondence address of this application to the address associated with Customer No. 30245.

The record does not support a showing that applicant promptly notify the Office of the change of correspondence address. Accordingly, applicant has failed to demonstrate that the delay in paying the issue fee was unavoidable due to non-receipt of the Notice of Allowance.

The Office reminds applicant that a belated notification to the USPTO of a change of correspondence address does not constitute proper notification as to establish unavoidable delay. An applicant is responsible for promptly informing the Office of any change of address. Furthermore, the Office notes that where an application becomes abandoned as a consequence of a change of correspondence address an adequate showing of "unavoidable" delay requires a showing that applicant exercised due care to promptly notify the Office of the change of address and file a timely notification of the change of address in the application at hand. ⁵ Furthermore, a delay

⁵ MPEP 711.03(c)(III)(C)(2)

resulting from the lack of knowledge or improper application of the patent statute, rules of practice or the MPEP does not constitute an "unavoidable" delay.⁶

Because applicant did not provide a sufficient showing that the delay was unavoidable within the meaning of 35 USC § 151 and 37 CFR 1.137(a), the petition is **dismissed**. In any renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a), applicant must submit documentary evidence to support a showing of unavoidable delay.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail:

Mail Stop Petition

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By FAX:

(571) 273-8300

Attn: Office of Petitions

By hand:

Customer Service Window

Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone inquiries related to this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3211.

Christina Partere Donnell
Christina Tartera Donnell

Senior Petitions Attorney

Office of Petitions

Enclosures

⁶ <u>See Haines v. Quigg</u>, 673 F. Supp. 314, 317, 5 USPQ2d 1130, 1132 (N.D. Ind. 1987), <u>Vincent v. Mossinghoff</u>, 230 USPQ 621, 624 (D.D.C. 1985); <u>Smith v. Diamond</u>, 209 USPQ 1091 (D.D.C. 1981); <u>Potter v. Dann</u>, 201 USPQ 574 (D.D.C. 1978); <u>Ex parte Murray</u>, 1891 Dec. Comm'r Pat. 130, 131 (1891).



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/603,235	06/24/2003	James A. Lesch JR.	NWK1581 5606	
75	90 05/26/2006		EXAM	INER
Anthony Edw.	J Campbell		BRINSON, F	PATRICK F
6721 Northridge Dallas, TX 75			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Dunas, 17. 75	214-3130		3754	
			DATE MAILED: 05/26/2000	6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	reprication No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Abandonment	10/603,235	James A. Lesch JR.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	BRINSON, PATRICK F	3754
- The MAILING DATE of this communication ap	pears on the cover sheet with the c	correspondence address-
This application is abandoned in view of:		
Applicant's failure to timely file a proper reply to the Office A reply was received on (with a Certificate of period for reply (including a total extension of time of	Mailing or Transmission datedmonth(s)) which expired on	
(b) A proposed reply was received on, but it does	not constitute a proper reply under 3	7 CFR 1.113 (a) to the final rejection.
(A proper reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to a final rejection application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely file Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37	d Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); CFR 1.114).	or (3) a timely filed Request for
(c) A reply was received on but it does not constitution final rejection. See 37 CFR 1.85(a) and 1.111. (See	tute a proper reply, or a bona fide atte explanation in box 7 below).	empt at a proper reply, to the non-
(d) ☐ No reply has been received.	·	
Applicant's failure to timely pay the required issue fee an from the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance (PTOL-4).	85).	
(a) ☐ The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, wa), which is after the expiration of the statutory p Allowance (PTOL-85).	s received on (with a Certifice period for payment of the issue fee (ar	ate of Mailing or Transmission dated nd publication fee) set in the Notice of
(b) ☐ The submitted fee of \$ is insufficient. A balance	e of \$ is due.	
The issue fee required by 37 CFR 1.18 is \$		CFR 1.18(d), is \$.
(c) 🛮 The issue fee and publication fee, if applicable, has n		
Applicant's failure to timely file corrected drawings as req Allowability (PTO-37).	uired by, and within the three-month p	period set in, the Notice of
(a) ☐ Proposed corrected drawings were received on after the expiration of the period for reply.	_ (with a Certificate of Mailing or Tran	esmission dated), which is
(b) ☐ No corrected drawings have been received.		
4. The letter of express abandonment which is signed by th the applicants.	e attorney or agent of record, the ass	ignee of the entire interest, or all of
5. The letter of express abandonment which is signed by an 1.34(a)) upon the filing of a continuing application.	n attorney or agent (acting in a repres	entative capacity under 37 CFR
The decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interfer of the decision has expired and there are no allowed clair		e the period for seeking court review
7. The reason(s) below:		
•		
		AG
Petitions to revive under 37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b), or requests to withdra minimize any negative effects on patent term.	aw the holding of abandonment under 37 (CFR 1.181, should be promptly filed to
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	of Abandonment	Part of Paper No. 0



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CORRECTED NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

06/28/2005

Anthony Edw. J Campbell 6721 Northridge Drive Dallas, TX 75214-3156

EXAMINER

BRINSON, PATRICK F

PAPER NUMBER

ART UNIT 3754

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603.235	06/24/2003	James A. Lesch IR	NWK ISSI	5606

TITLE OF INVENTION: INSULATED PIPE CONCEALER

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$700	\$0	\$700	09/28/2005

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. <u>PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED</u>. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown
- B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B -Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or
- B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.
- II. PART B FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

Mail Stop ISSUE FEE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

					or <u>Fax</u>	(703) 746-4000			
INSTRUCTIONS: This appropriate. All further indicated unless correcte maintenance fee notificat	d below	or direct	ised for tran cluding the l ed otherwise	smitting the ISSU Patent, advance on in Block 1, by (a	E FEE and PUB ders and notificati) specifying a new	LICATION FEE (if re on of maintenance fee or correspondence addre	equired). Blocks I through 5 ses will be mailed to the current ess; and/or (b) indicating a sep	hould be completed where correspondence address as arate "FEE ADDRESS" for	
CURRENT CORRESPONDE		RESS (Note	Use Block I for	any change of address)		Note: A certificate	of mailing can only be used f	or domestic mailings of the	
						Fee(s) Transmittal. papers. Each additi	This certificate cannot be used onal paper, such as an assignm	for any other accompanying ent or formal drawing, must	
	7590		06/28/2005	•		Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, mushave its own certificate of mailing or transmission.			
Anthony Edw.		pbell				I hambu aaase sha	Certificate of Mailing or Tran	smission	
6721 Northridge Dallas, TX 7521		·			·	States Postal Service addressed to the 1	at this Fee(s) Transmittal is being the with sufficient postage for find ail Stop ISSUE FEE address USPTO (703) 746-4000, on the	st class mail in an envelope above, or being facsimile	
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								(Signature)	
					, .			(Date)	
APPLICATION NO.		FILING I	DATE		FIRST NAMED INV	ENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/603,235		06/24/2	2003		James A. Lesci	JR.	NWK1581	5606	
TITLE OF INVENTION:	: INSUL/	ATED PI	PE CONCEA	LER					
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- APPLN. TYPE	7 :	SMALL E	NTITY	ISSUE FI	EE B	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE	
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3. ASSIGNEE NAME AN	ND RESI	DENCE	DATA TO B	E PRINTED ON T	HE PATENT (pri	nt or type)			
					-		ignee is identified below, the o	locument has been filed for	
(A) NAME OF ASSIG	INEE			(B)) RESIDENCE: (C	CITY and STATE OR (COUNTRY)		
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						_			
Please check the appropri	ate assign	ice catego	ory or categor	ries (will not be pri	nted on the patent	: 🔲 Individual 🚨	Corporation or other private gr	oup entity Government	
4a. The following fee(s) a	re enclos	ed:		4b.	. Payment of Fee(s	•			
Issue Fee					A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.				
Publication Fee (No	of Conia	unty aisce	ount permitte	·a) .			038 is attached. y charge the required fee(s), or		
Advance Older - W	от Соріс	<u> </u>			Deposit Account	Number	y charge the required fee(s), or (enclose an extra c	credit any overpayment, to copy of this form).	
5. Change in Entity State					<u> </u>	•			
a. Applicant claims							MALL ENTITY status. See 37 C		
NOTE: The Issue Fee and interest as shown by the re	Publicat ecords of	ion Fee (the Unite	if required) wed States Pate	vill not be accepted int and Trademark	from anyone othe Office.	to re-apply any previous than the applicant; a	ously paid issue fee to the applic registered attorney or agent; or t	ation identified above, he assignee or other party in	
Authorized Signature _						Date		•	
Typed or printed name Registration No									
This collection of informa	ition is re	quired by	37 CFR 1.3	11. The information	n is required to obt				
an application. Confidenti submitting the completed this form and/or suggestio Box 1450, Alexandria, 23 Alexandria. Virginia 2231	ality is graphications for re- irginia 22 13-1450.	overned 1 on form ducing th 313-145(by 35 U.S.C. to the USPTO is burden, sh	122 and 37 CFR I O. Time will vary ould be sent to the SEND FEES OR C	.14. This collection depending upon the Chief Information COMPLETED FOR	n is estimated to take the individual case. Any to Officer, U.S. Patent a the TO THIS ADDRI	by the public which is to file (an 12 minutes to complete, including comments on the amount of the trademark Office, U.S. Depess. SEND TO: Commissioner	ng gathering, preparing, and me you require to complete artment of Commerce, P.O. for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,	
Under the Paperwork Red	uction A	ct of 199	5, no persons	are required to resp	pond to a collectio	n of information unless	it displays a valid OMB contro	number.	



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	. FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,235	06/24/2003	James A. Lesch JR.	. NWK1581	5606
. 79	90 06/28/2005		EXAM	INER
Anthony Edw. J			BRINSON, I	PATRICK F
6721 Northridge D Dallas, TX 75214-			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
•			3754	
			DATE MAILED: 06/28/200	5

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571) 272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
A4 A* A A M L WA	10/803,235	LESCH ET AL.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Patrick F. Brinson	3754	
- The MAILING DATE of this communication apperaished by the MAILING DATE of this communication apperaished by the MERITS IS therewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RID to the Office or upon pelition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this app or other appropriate communication IGHTS. This application is subject to	dication. If not include will be mailed in due	ed course. THIS
 This communication is responsive to phone conversation of 	of January 3, 2005.		
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 end 8-20.		•	
 The drawings filed on <u>24 June 2003</u> are accepted by the E 	xaminer.		•
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority uner a) All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE. 5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subminsformal PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date (b) Including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	been received. been received in Application No currents have been received in this in of this communication to file a reply the series of this application. itted. Note the attached EXAMINER' as reason(s) why the oath or declarate the submitted. Son's Patent Drawing Review (PTO- s Amendment / Comment or in the Co	complying with the resistance of the section of	quirements POTICE OF
identifying indicis such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t	,84(c)) should be written on the drawir he header according to 37 CFR 1.121(ngs in the front (not the d),	back) of
 DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the depo attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT 	sit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL IN FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICA	nust be submitted. AL MATERIAL.	Note the
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Attachm nt(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. Notice of Informat P	alent Application (PT	O-152)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Palent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Dal		
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0			•
Paper No./Mail Date			
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's attorney, Mr. Anthony Campbell on Monday, January 3, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 10, line 1, change "10" to "1", claim 12, line 1, change "13" to "1".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Patrick F. Brinson** whose telephone number is (571) 272-4897. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Y. Mar can be reached on (571) 272-4906. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patrick F. Brinson Primary Examiner Art Unit 3754

P. F. Brinson January 6, 2005